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(*b*) the possibilities of sea water being converted into pure water fit for agriculture and drinking purposes?

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" (*a*) & (*b*) The answer is in the negative, except that the matter of research on rendering brackish or saline water potable has been gone into but the results are not yet ripe for publication."

*Surveying of Munagala estate.*

* 298 *Q.*—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether the Munagala estate is being surveyed?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" No. The survey of the estate has not yet been taken up."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" Are the Government aware of the fact that the zamindar of this estate is grabbing most of the lands and trying to make them home-farm lands because of the delay in surveying this estate? How many years will the Government take to survey this?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" I do not know whether grabbing and surveying is co-related. The fact is a small temporary staff has been sanctioned for each range for the survey of minor and scattered estates. Now the Board of Revenue has recommended that from the experience gained so far, it is found that the staff is too small to make any marked progress and has accordingly asked for sanction for the employment of a full section of sixty field surveyors with a proportionate strength of supervisory staff for each range to accelerate the pace of the survey work. The matter is under the consideration of the Standing Finance Committee."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" May I know from the Government whether they are prepared to give pattas to the peasants who are in possession of the lands in spite of the fact that the zamindar may put in his claims?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The question of giving pattas will be considered later on."

*Number of executions carried out in the year* **1951.**

* 299 *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR (on behalf of Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many executions have been carried out in the year 1951 in this State; and

(*b*) in how many cases of capital sentence was clemency exercised?

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THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR :—" (*a*) Thirty-one.

" (*b*) In eighteen cases."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" Have the Government the right to take away what they have not given? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I do not catch the Member."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" Have the Government the right to take away life which they have not given and, therefore, is the capital punishment justifiable? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Much has been said about this, Sir. At present, we have a right to consider the matter in connection with mercy petitions."

*Grant of pattas of Government banjar lands in Anantapur district.*

* 300 *Q.*—SRI T. NAGI REDDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a large number of Adi-Andhras of Vajrakarur, Ganjikunta, Pyapili, Kothapalli villages of Anantapur district, are not yet given pattas of Government banjar lands which they have been cultivating for over a decade; and

(*b*) if so, why they have not been given pattas?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no information in the matter but have called for the same from the Collector and his reply is awaited."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" Sir, I have so far given notice of four or five questions and it is unfortunate that only one of them has been answered properly. About the rest, no information is available with the Government. All the same, Sir, may I request the Minister to see that steps are taken to prevent the eviction of these Harijans from the lands which they have been cultivating for the last ten years and to issue them pattas immediately? Will he bear in mind that not one of these people has been given a patta and not only that, they are also mercilessly thrown out of the lands? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" As far as the law allows, I shall certainly see that the sivoijamadars are not illegally ousted."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" May I know the law, Sir? Here is a law which is simple and clear. The sivoijamadars are allowed to cultivate the lands and those who have been cultivating them should not be evicted. That is the simple law in existence. All the same, may I bring to the notice of the Hon. the Minister for Revenue that in almost all the districts and especially in the Anantapur district,